

Warp Speed Introduction Game

1. First have students write their name on a name plate or name plaque.
2. Practice saying: "My name is ____." "I am from ____." and "I speak ____." in English.
3. Then form a large circle
4. Join the circle and give the following instructions:
 - a. We are going to pass this Koosh ball around and introduce ourselves.
 - b. You can tell us your name, where you are from, and what languages you speak. Try to use the English we just practiced. I will help you! If it is too hard to use English, the interpreter can interpret for you.
 - c. You cannot pass the ball to someone who has already gotten it. Try to pass it across the circle and not just to your friend next to you.
 - d. We are going to do this more than once so remember who you pass the ball to because we have to go in the same order.
5. Introduce yourself. I am ____ . I am from ____ . I speak ____ . Then pass the ball to someone else. Include the interpreters too!
6. Now comes the "warp speed." Tell each client that this round they will be timed and they ONLY have to share their name. Then they will pass it to the same person they passed it to last time.
7. Once they have completed this round show them how long it took them. I use the stopwatch on my phone to record the time. Ask if they can go faster? Someone will say yes!!
8. Go again and see how fast they can go and record their time. Repeat this again then ask if they have any creative ideas or plans to make it go faster. Hopefully someone will suggest moving closer together or moving positions to stand next to the person that they pass it to. Congratulate these ideas and try them out. This should make it go much faster. Go one more time and hopefully they got their fastest time. If they make a mistake let them try again. Mistakes are okay because in a job they will make mistakes and have to pick things up and just keep trying, so hopefully a few mistakes occur too.
9. Debrief by asking them a few questions like:
 - a. What was challenging?
 - b. Did you go faster the first time you tried or the last time?
 - c. What did you learn?
 - d. How can you relate this to finding and keeping a job in America?
 - i. Make a plan and be creative! Problem solve any issues.
 - ii. Communicate well!
 - iii. Teamwork! You can get a lot more done when you are working together rather than alone.
 - iv. Never give up! Learn from your mistakes. Persistence is key!

Much like this challenge your journey to work success in the US will challenge you, require good communication, require planning and creative thinking, and require problem solving skills.